

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-14 are in this Preliminary Amendment and are presented for consideration. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 6 to include the limitations of claims 2 and 7 respectively. In addition, claim 14 has been amended to improve the clarity of the Application. The claims have been amended to place the application in a better form and no new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1 - 4, 6 - 8 and 10 - 13 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Koch et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,092,466, "Koch '466", hereinafter) in view of Neidermaier et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,123,316, "Neidermaier '316", hereinafter).

Koch '466 pertains to a process for the ink and crop mark regulation. Koch '466 discloses a need to perform a calculation of the web stretching value, as it is taught in the part of claim 1 in the Koch '466 invention. Such step does not suggest the present invention as claimed and even leads away from the present invention claimed.

Neidermaier '316 teaches a process and a device for determining cutting positions which includes a step of recording each individual web strand by sensors before the web strands are brought together to a cutting device.

However, Neidermaier '316 includes two separate control and adjusting means for determining cutting positions of web strands or strands to be stitched.

According to the present invention as claimed, the combination of features not taught

by the prior art provides several improved effect for the present invention as claimed. For example, according to the present invention as claimed, only the position of the paper web is measured, without requiring any calculation. In addition, as noted by the Examiner, Koch '466 fails to teach the step of recording for each individual web strand before bringing the web strands together to a cutting device. Therefore, Applicant finds that the Koch '466 reference in combination with Neidermaier '316 does not anticipate the current invention and there is no suggestion or motivation to use the teachings of the references to provide the combination as claimed.

Specifically, there must be some suggestion or teaching in the prior art as a whole which would lead the person of ordinary skill in the art to provide the combination as claimed. As the prior art as a whole fails to direct the person of ordinary skill in the art toward the claimed combination, the invention should be considered not anticipated, non-obvious, and thus patentable.

According to the present invention as claimed, the common measured value for the cutting position of the web strands in the strand to be stitched and the individual strand measured values of the web strands are sent to one regulating means.

In addition, the Neidermaier '316 uses sensors 64 to record measured values of cutting positions of web strands before they are brought together. These measured values are then sent to a control and adjusted and processed with an incremental value of the cutting position of the strands to be stitched.

As the prior art fails to suggest the combination of features as claimed, accordingly,

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider the rejection in view of the amended claims and in view of the discussion above.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which would further favorable prosecution of this Application, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's representative by telephone to discuss possible changes.

At this time, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this Application in view of the above amendments and remarks, and Applicant respectfully solicits allowance of this Application.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By:



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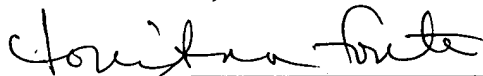
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SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

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